

their community through both their professional and voluntary endeavors. As such, they are more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring these truly remarkable people.

COMMENDING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS AND THE ARMED FORCES RELIEF TRUST

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of an important initiative undertaken by the National Association of Broadcasters and the Armed Forces Relief Trust.

With over 140,000 troops stationed in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and around the world, military families' budgets are stretched thin. In many cases, the personnel deployed are the sole breadwinners for their family, making it difficult to cope with unexpected expenses.

Last year, the relief agencies for each branch of the military raised and distributed over \$109 million in assistance to military families in need. This year, with the support of the National Association of Broadcasters and its local radio and television station members, the four relief agencies have come together to form the Armed Forces Relief Trust.

In support of that effort—and to help respond to the escalating needs of military families, the NAB and its 6,000 radio station and 1,000 television station members have produced, distributed and aired Public Service Announcements to raise monies for the Trust.

Considering recent events in Iraq, I think Americans everywhere are looking for ways to support our troops. The AFRT provides valuable services to the family members of our brave men and women who are fighting terrorism abroad. The program pays for airfare so personnel can fly home to the funeral of a loved one.

It provides needed medical attention for the spouses of military personnel. It can help offset the cost of college tuition for the child of a soldier. While the military is dedicated to taking care of its own, the needs will only continue to escalate as the length of deployments stretch out. The Trust can help make up for some of the shortfall.

By providing access to the airwaves, local television and radio stations are supporting what I believe to be an important and timely cause.

I'm therefore well aware that deployments are not only emotionally trying for military families, but financially trying as well.

I therefore commend the AFRT for providing needed relief to these families and the National Association of Broadcasters for helping get out the word.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during the fol-

lowing rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 612, "yes"; rollcall No. 613, "yes"; rollcall No. 614, "yes"; rollcall No. 615, "yes"; rollcall No. 616, "yes"; rollcall No. 617, "yes"; rollcall No. 618, "no"; rollcall No. 619, "yes."

RECOGNIZING SHAUN THOMAS DIAMOND FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Shaun Thomas Diamond, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Shaun has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 9 years Shaun has been involved with Scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as assistant senior patrol leader, assistant patrol leader, patrol leader, and librarian. Shaun has been involved with the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is a Keeper of the Sacred Bundle. He also served on staff for 2 years at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation.

For his Eagle Scout project, Shaun led a group of boys and adults in the removal of the obsolete woodland trail header and in the construction of a new woodland trail header for Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary. The new header will be enjoyed by many visitors and has increased the safety of the trail.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Shaun Thomas Diamond for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO STAR BAR

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a remarkable small business in my district. The Star Bar in Pueblo, Colorado has been serving customers and its community for nearly a century, and it is my privilege to recognize its longevity and dedication to its customers here today.

Over the years, a variety of owners have operated the renowned Star Bar. The bar's current proprietors, Louis and Linda DeNiro, bought the establishment approximately five years ago. Despite changes in ownership, the Star Bar has remained a constant in the lives of many Puebloans. In fact, little has changed since the business was featured in an issue of National Geographic. Due to its undeniable appeal, The Star Bar has been bringing customers back for decades, and will surely continue to do so for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, dining establishments such as the Star Bar hold a special and important place in communities across the nation. Their

customers find comfort in the consistently warm and friendly service. I am honored to stand here today before this body of Congress and this nation to recognize Pueblo's Star Bar and its many years of tremendous service.

A TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. SIMPSON, ESQ.

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Charles E. Simpson, in recognition of his commitment and service to his community and his outstanding accomplishments in the field of law.

Charles is an attorney and a partner of Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP., and chairs the firm's Bankruptcy, Corporate Restructuring and Workouts Practice Group. He is also a member of the Litigation and Real Estate Practice Groups.

Since 1981, Charles has served as one of the counsels to the Honorable Edolphus Towns of the 10th Congressional District, Brooklyn, New York. In addition, he is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the Brooklyn Red Cross, the Queens Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and the Brooklyn Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. From 1983 through 1987, Mr. Simpson served as Brooklyn's Representative on the Board of Directors of the then New York City Public Development Corporation. He also served as counsel to the Bed-Stuy/Crown Heights Area Health Plan and the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation. He was a member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Minorities in the Profession from 1987 to 1992.

Charles, who served in the U.S. Army from 1969–1972, graduated magna cum laude from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, California in 1974 and received his law degree in 1977 from Harvard. He was named a Martin Luther King Jr. Fellow in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, Charles E. Simpson has dedicated his time to an array of local activities and causes, often using his legal expertise for the betterment of the community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

COMMENDING STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE 2003 WORLD CUP CHAMPION TEAM FROM DRURY UNIVERSITY

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2003*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) 2003 World Cup Champion Team from Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. These exceptional university students demonstrated on an international stage what it means to practice free enterprise with common sense in a socially and ethically responsible manner. Drury University's SIFE team